

# **The Broken Heart**

## **by John Ford**



**LibriVox**

## **The Broken Heart**

### **by John Ford**

Total running time: 02:39:46

*The Broken Heart* stands next to *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* as Ford's most popular drama. All is not right in Sparta because of, as is typical in this era of tragedies, the issue of marriage. In brief, Penthea wishes to marry Orgilus, but her brother Ithocles gets involved and bans them from doing so. He forces her to marry Bassanes, an abusive brute who happens to be wealthier than Orgilus. Ithocles then realises what he has done wrong and tries to get his friend Prophilus to marry Orgilus's sister Euphrania. Ithocles himself wants to marry the princess of Sparta, Calantha, who chooses him over her current betrothed, her cousin Nearchus. Thus begins a shocking cycle of revenge and recrimination... with predictably grisly consequences.

This recording is in the public domain and may be reproduced, distributed, or modified without permission. For more information or to volunteer, visit [librivox.org](http://librivox.org). Cover picture by Circe Denyer (21<sup>st</sup> century). Copyright forfeited in U.S. Cover design by David Purdy. This design is in the public domain.

The Broken Heart – John Ford

The Broken Heart – John Ford